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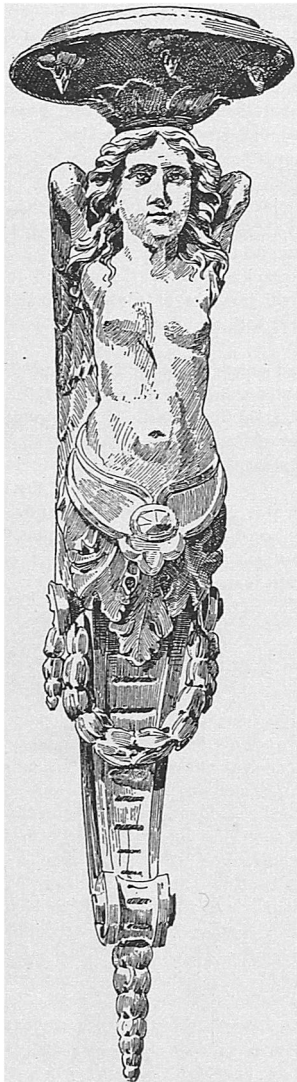
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There are end nippers to these tongs and a spring is pressed when the asparagus is taken.

New pie knives are very plain and narrower than usual and do not resemble fish knives as much as they used to.

Cheese knives and the "saw-cake knife" are no longer considered luxuries, but necessities in every well regulated household.



CARVED WOOD BRACKET.

Silver cups for children have a plain polished surface with smooth rounded edges. Many are plain with no ornamentation, while others have a single garland design.

Individual china trays for invalids are exquisite pieces of china in beautiful English ware. Depressions are found in the tray for holding the creamer, sugar basket and covered cup, and a projection for the bread and butter. The latest trays have a toast rack, which is composed of three bars.

Among late novelties are egg-sets in fascinating shapes. A circular stand with a centre handle is supplied with six cups and spoons, each of which rests in its own place in receptacles which are ranged round the centre of equal distance. The spoons, like the cups, are china. Dresden sets sell for \$18.50.

The silver cheese-holders, which were lately introduced are of fine plated ware and clasp the cheese tightly. A knob or handle, which is screwed into the top of the cheese, and a curved spoon-like knife accompanies the cheese-holder. This pretty set can be purchased for \$4.00, and is found very useful by those who serve the pineapple and edam cheeses.

SCHEME FOR A VIOLET ROOM—GUEST CHAMBER IN A COUNTRY HOUSE.

"THE earth was made so various that the mind of desultory man (studious of change and pleased with novelty) might be indulged."

So have I often thought after seeing the hundreds of pink and blue rooms that it would truly be a great pleasure to waken up from the arms of Morpheus and find myself transplanted in some welcome novelty.

I will give to your readers a scheme for a violet room, a guest chamber in a country home, which in beauty, warmth of color cannot be surpassed.

Now in the days when drapery chintz and cretonne are so cheap, this room can be made very effective in inexpensive material. More costly fabrics, however, produce richer effects, but this is at the convenience of the housewife. To begin with the foundation, the floor, carpet it with a pretty golden olive ingrain carpet at 90 cents a yard, or should you desire something less costly, paint it olive.

Paper the walls with orange colored paper having flowers of violet and heliotrope shades and colors. Use the same color for ceiling, only lighter in tone, and drop ceiling paper to the picture moulding



A HOME MADE DAMASCUS TABLE.

twelve inches from ceiling. Paint the wood two shades of light violet, using the lighter shade for the panels of the door.

These colors are exquisite in wood and take the place of the blue so much used.

Drape the mantel with orange figured cretonne hid with violet ribbon. Cover the chairs also with the same.

Use orange colored crepe at a shilling a yard for sash curtains. These will impart a beautiful golden light to the room which is extremely effective and becoming. Other curtains can be suspended from poles.

For the bed nothing is prettier than the pure white-spread and the dainty home-made shams that are always found in a country home. If you should desire a change, I will suggest a chamber roll covered with yellow linen, ornamented with a bow of violet ribbon. The spread of same linen decorated with bunches of violets, heliotrope or sprays of lilacs worked in the outline stitch, that is so easily and quickly done.

Make pincushion of light violet satin edged with artificial violets, and a dainty lace covering for the centre. This is an exceedingly pretty cushion and can be made of five-eighths of a yard of satin at 49 cents a yard, four bunches of violets twenty cents, and one yard of oriental lace at fifteen cents. Use about two yards of orange crepe to throw over the top of mirror.

Use American rugs for the floor, as in these you can always find harmonious colors at a moderate expense.

Some very effective rugs, can be made in a short time by cutting calico or flannel into narrow strips and drawing them through coarse canvass or coffee sacks. Tie these on the right side and leave ends to every knot one-half inch long.

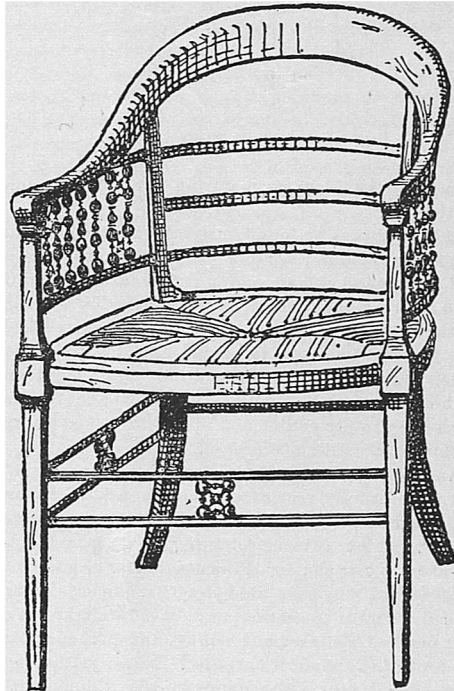
For this room make two rugs, one with violet centre with an orange border ten inches wide. The other an orange centre with a variegated border twelve inches deep of violet, olive and golden shades. These rugs are lovely when knotted closely and afford fascinating work. They can both be made for five dollars.

A DWELLING IN INDIA.

IN PHILLIPS BROOKS' "Letters from India," in the September CENTURY, is a description of a dwelling house in India.

"Fancy," says he, "an enormous house rambling out into a series of immense rooms, all on one floor, piazzas twenty feet deep, immense chambers (in the middle of which stands the beds), doors and windows wide open, the grounds filled with palms, bananas, and all sorts of tropical trees, the song of birds, the chirp of insects everywhere, and a dazzling sun blazing down on the Indian Ocean in front. A dozen or more dusky Hindu servants, barefooted, dressed in white, with bright sashes around their waists, and bright turbans on their heads, are moving about everywhere, as still as cats, and with no end of devotion to their little duties. One of them seems to have nothing to do but to look after me; he has worked over my limited wardrobe till he knows every shirt and collar better than I do myself. He is now brushing my hat for the twelfth time this morning. The life is luxurious. Quantities of delightful fruit, cool lounging-places with luxurious chairs, sumptuous breakfast (or "tiffin," as we call it here) and dinner-table, and no end of kind attention. I am writing in my room the day before Christmas, as if it were a rather hot August morning at home."

PILLOWS made of cotton goods, gay plaid gingham, or other washable materials, are useful on any



RUSH SEAT EASY CHAIR.

lounge, and add a bit of color to a room, which is always pleasing.

A bedspread for use in summer is a white linen cover, embroidered all over in some simple geometric design in either white linen or silk, and finished on the edge with a full ruffle of heavy white lace. This is dainty and easy to make, and has the advantage of laundering well, which is always a great consideration in matters of this kind.